



LUMBERTON TOWN MEETING

City Library

Lumberton, Mississippi

January 18, 1979

This Town Is Our Town

(tune: "This Land Is Your Land")

CHORUS:

This town is your town, this town is my town
From Inter-state 59 to the Bass Memorial Air Port
From our oldest citizens to the youngest children
This town is home for all of us.

Oh we've been chopping our beautiful forests
And we've been picking the tung oil produce
Then we found below us those black gold riches
This town's been good to most of us.

* * * * *

Our senior citizens and the houses called home by us
With the tinkling voices of our vibrant children
If all among us, our care be showing
This town will grow for all of us.

* * * * *

If we get our houses
And the smooth new sidewalks
With the daycare students in the new facility
If we work together, we'll see the caring,
This town will satisfy us all.

Our land was once sparsely inhabited in the midst of majestic pine timber. Way back in 1883 the railroad was completed from New Orleans to Meridian. Four young men from Georgia made their way to this untouched land. Piatonia, up the road a piece, almost became the site of a town; but due to the stubbornness of these four men, their railroad spur at Lumberton became the center of activity. This was the beginning of Lumberton.

Mills cutting the pine timber cause the town to grow. The town was laid out correctly to entice more families to settle here. Churches were built, schools were erected.

In 1929 the big mill cut out and the depression began. Many of our folks had to leave our fair city in order to provide meat and bread for their families. Bass pecans gave our town a Class A post office.

In 1942 a gas explosion on Main st. resulted in the loss of life and property. The good people had to regroup and rebuild.

In 1950's gas was brought forth, and oil activities in our area. New ~~blood~~ blood came to our town.

Hurricane Camille will never be forgotten--the terror, the loss of property.

But again, Lumberton people worked side by side to rebuild and restore. Today there are new signs about. A new library, homes, streets improved, ~~new~~ bond issue passed for the new elementary school, improved school system, industries locating here, signs of day care for the aged and small children, improved hospital care, better fire protection--solidly located plants, such as Turbodyne, Move Stars of Lumberton, Hurt Mfg., Miles Lbr. Co., and the new feed mill.

Old times still recall the railroad station and waiting to ride the train; the section houses; the Hines Lumber Company. Signs of today are waiting in line at First Mississippi National Bank; street lights and houses numbered all over town; and the streets named.

~~Today~~ Today as I walk down this old Main St., I remember so many good things, that I can say LUMBERTON was made for you and me.°

In the arena of DAY CARE, the fact that there is funding for a new day care center for up to 33 children but not enough children have signed up for the program, indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is EDUCATING THE CITIZENS ABOUT THE BENEFITS FOR THEM AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE NEW DAY CARE CENTER.

In the arena of community beautification, the fact that lots are overgrown and the town is not as clean as it could be, indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is INVOLVING BOTH THE COMMUNITY AND THE TOWN TO LUMBERTON IN CLEANING UP ALL PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY.

In the arena of PUBLIC WORKS, the fact that there are not fire hydrants in some parts of the community, the hospital needs expansion to accomodate all of the patients, and the sidewalks are broken, indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is DEVELOPING AN OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CITY AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.

In the arena of HOUSING, the fact that some people don't fix broken down houses, in some communities no one knows who is responsible for the upkeep of the total community housing, and ~~xxxx~~ indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is FINDING INEXPENSIVE AND QUALITY HOUSE REPAIR WORK.

In the arena of RECREATION, the fact that children have nothing to do in the summer, teenagers have no activities, there is not enough cultural activities, there are not enough recreation locations, indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is FINDING A LEADER TO ORGANIZE RECREATION.

In the arena of senior ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ citizens, the fact that many elders are invalids and have not one to care for them, that many elders have no work ways, that there are not enough senior citizen workers, indicates that the challenge facing Lumberton is INVOLVING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IN CARING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.

We the citizens of Lumberton, in order to teach self-maintenance, propose to demonstrate one clean-up job through:

1. self-help
2. help one another fix houses
3. demonstrate improving surrounding area, ~~xxx~~ i.e., flowers, hedges
4. ask for help to get others involved.

We the citizens of Lumberton, in order to help the senior citizens so they can stay out of nursing homes, propose to visit senior citizens and find out their needs through:

1. providing transportation
2. fixing sidewalks
3. carrying meals to them.

We the citizens of Lumberton, in order to make Lumberton a better place to live, propose to involve everyone and get them instructed to get together and work together.

We the citizens of Lumberton, in order to get a recreation leader, propose to raise local funds for a salary by:

1. home visits
2. involving youth in selection
3. check potential workers' background and past records.

We the citizens of Lumberton, in order to educate parents and explain the Day Care Center, propose to ~~xxx~~ talk to parents and explain the center through:

1. advertisement,
2. post information
3. announce in church
4. provide cars.

Mollie Bounds	Lumberton
Deloris W Bowens	"
Ella Windom	"
Bobby J Garraway	"
Sylvester Palmer	"
Mary Frances Page	"
Queen Mae Parker	"
Murinda Marton	"
Mattie Georgia	"
Diann McCabe	Face
Martha B Namie	Lumberton
Narcissus Holsey	"
Manie Lee	Purvis
Bonnie Jean Davis	"
Dan Olive	Casriere
Joanna Clark	Lumberton
Glenda Kee	"
Sylvester Page	"
Elizabeth R Donnellan	"
Willie E Bethea	"
Julia A Georgia	"
Joyce Anderson	Purvis
C V Wingfield	Lumberton
Dora B Lott	"
JoAnna Young	"
John Jefferson	"
Jesse Clements	New Orleans
Eva M Speights	Lumberton
Katie Bilbo	"
Flozzella M Williams	"
M A Pigford	"
Kenneth Bilbo	"
W E Baker	"
Fercy Adams	"
C.R. Edwards	"
Mrs. Bertha L. Edwards	"